

Legislative Research  
SAFLL-2

January 1962

Congressional Information

Name: Jackson, Henry M. - Democrat - Senator from Washington

Home: Everett, Washington

Born: May 31, 1912 in Everett, Washington

Military: enlisted as private in infantry in WW II but was recalled to Congress by executive order.

Education: Stanford University  
University of Washington, 1935 (LL.B.)

Profession: Lawyer

Background: Prosecuting attorney of Snohomish County (1938).  
Elected to 77th Congress in 1940; reelected to each succeeding Congress. In 1952 elected to Senate; reelected in 1958 for term ending 1965.

Committees: Armed Services (Subcommittees: Preparedness Investigating;  
Conflict of Interest-Chairman; Cold War ~~Menace~~)  
Government Operations (Subcommittees: Permanent Investigations)

Interior and Insular Affairs (Subcommittees: Irrigation and Reclamation; Territories and Insular Affairs - Chairman).  
Joint Atomic Energy Committee (Subcs: Legislation; Security; Military Applications - Chmn; Communities; Research & Development & Radiation.  
Bases: Fairchild AFB (ATLAS Sites, 2 counties); Geiger Field; Larson AFB (TITAN Sites, 2 counties); McChord AFB; Paine AFB.

Remarks: Able, well-informed. A forceful speaker on military policy. Questions adequacy of defense appropriations in face of Soviet competition in bombers, missiles, and submarines.

As a member of the Symington Subcommittee on Airpower (1956) repeatedly questioned impact on NATO countries of Russians obtaining ICBM before US; overall and jet aircraft capacity in relation to Russia; length of time for decisions, especially on need for B-52s.

Following a 1957 NATO conference he called for tax increase to build 100 A-powered subs armed with Polaris. In addition he recommended atomic underseas fleet be directly under JCS.

During Kennedy's election campaign he was chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

In 1959 he called for a thorough inquiry into the organization of the government for executing national policy. As a result, the Senate Government Operations Committee established a National Policy

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Machinery Subcommittee with Jackson as Chairman. Both he and the President agreed to a nonpartisan, objective study. Some of the witnesses who testified before his Subcommittee were Secretary of Defense Gates, Robert Lovett, Robert Sprague, General Taylor, Admiral Radford, Paul Nitze, Henry Lucke, Governor Rockefeller, et al. The first staff report (November 16, 1960) was on Supercabinet Officers and Superstaffs; an idea of a First Secretary of State was rejected. The second report (December 12, 1960) urged reorganization of the subordinate machinery of the National Security Council. (Note: The Subcommittee has completed its studies)

In a Foreign Affairs April 1960 article he wrote of the possibility of integrating the Departments of State and Defense more closely by various methods -- interchange of personnel, supplementing budget message with a President's report on requirements and resources defining long-range strategy and aims of the nation.

During the 1959 discussions on missile gap the Christian Science Monitor editorialized on his ideas. Jackson recommended: (1) acceleration of Minuteman; (2) extensive deployment of Polaris subs; (3) better limited war capabilities. (Congressional Record January 23, 1959 Page 1026)

Air Defense - during debate on Military Construction Bill for FY 60 said: (1) we need to continue to maintain our detection and identification systems; (2) we should proceed with all diligence and prudence in research and development in Nike-Zeus. (Congressional Record June 30, 1959 Page 11111)

Voted in favor of Symington's amendment to modernize Army and Thurmond's amendment to decrease civil airlift funds. (Congressional Record July 14, 1959) Again in 1960 he offered his own amendment to modernize the Army which was adopted by the Senate with modification. Called this 'top priority' for survival. (Congressional Record June 16, 1960)

Besides supporting Polaris and Army modernization he continued his support of retaliatory power. In January of 1960 before the American Legion's National Security Commission he recommended: (1) more funds for reducing the vulnerability of our forces in being i.e. early warning devices, further dispersal of SAC, around the clock airborne alert; (2) acceleration of solid propellant Minuteman and Polaris missiles. Again the fall of 1960 in addressing the Democratic leaders of Texas he called for the above two items and for the removal of roadblocks to developing new ways to defend ourselves, including pioneering achievements in space. (Baltimore Sun October 30, 1960)

The April 13, 1960 Washington Post reported his concern about air defense revisions in the budget. He said he would demand to know why Bomarc and Sage were being cut during the military construction authorization hearings.

He appeared as a witness before the Chavez Subcommittee (FY 61 DOD budget hearings) to ask for restoration of \$294 million deleted by House for the Bomarc-B. Also supported Navy carrier, deficiency authorization if needed for airborne alert. (Page 1767 Part 2)

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87th Congress -- Legislative Comments --

Missile Gap - on Senate floor - brought up distinctions in terminology. Remembers vividly testimony of Gen. Schriever before Preparedness Subcommittee that there is nothing you can do now to overcome the numerical advantage the Soviets have in ICBM's because we did not order them when we should have ordered them. (Cong. Record February 9, 1961 Page 1860)

Sen. Mansfield - submitted NY Times magazine article by Jackson "To Do Our Best, We Need Our Best." In brief he wrote: (1) career service must be made better training ground for top spots in Government; (2) lower barriers which at present discourage highly qualified people in private life from serving governmental tours of duty. (Cong. Record May 15, 1961 Page 7405)

Excerpts from hearings on Authorizing Appropriations for Procurement of Aircraft, Missiles, Naval Vessels (April 1961) --

Concerned about survivability of our missiles. Said: "I am not worried a great deal about a lot of numbers. What I want to know is how many will we have left after they have hit us, and how reliable will our survivable missiles be?" (P 399)

Stated -- the more mobility, the greater the survivability. As to fixed silos for Minuteman -- "I do not think this digging the hole concept is sound military strategy." (P 402)

On April 25, 1961 the Washington Post reported that Senator Jackson proposed immediate US start on anti-satellite missile because of the military implications of Russia's man in space feat.

As a Member of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, favors resumption of underground nuclear testing.

Procurement -- Submitted results of study by 5 University of Washington professors on "Defense Procurement and Small Business." (Cong. Record May 22, 1961 P 43588)

Washington Post (June 19, 1961) reported that he recommended Administration submit to Congress next January (1962) a reorganization plan creating anew Executive Science Unit.

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